

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ATLANTIC, CAPE MAY, LOWER DELAWARE, LOWER RARITAN/MIDDLESEX, MERCER, MONMOUTH, NORTHEAST, OCEAN, SUSSEX, TRI-COUNTY, UPPER DELAWARE AND UPPER RARITAN AREAWIDE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANS, EXCEPT FOR THE AREA WITHIN THE HIGHLANDS PRESERVATION AREA

Public Notice

**Take notice** that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is seeking public comment on a proposed amendment to the Atlantic, Cape May, Lower Delaware, Lower Raritan/Middlesex, Mercer, Monmouth, Northeast, Ocean, Sussex, Tri-County, Upper Delaware and Upper Raritan Water Quality Management (WQM) Plans. This amendment excludes the area within the Highlands Preservation Area as designated at N.J.S.A. 13:20-7b, which is addressed in a separate notice published in the September 19, 2005 issue of the New Jersey Register (see 37 NJR 3731(a)). Through this amendment the Department proposes to adopt a Statewide digital coverage of adopted wastewater service areas.

The Department proposes to reflect in an electronic coverage in the areawide WQM Plans the geographic extent of adopted wastewater service areas. Presently the adopted wastewater service areas exist on numerous paper maps of varying scales. This amendment would replace those paper renditions with a digital GIS coverage. This will enable the Department to make current adopted wastewater service areas available to the designated planning agencies, wastewater management planning agencies, State and local planning agencies and the general public through the Department's GIS website. Future amendments to the areawide WQM Plans would be integrated into the electronic coverage as they are adopted by the Department. Persons interested in reviewing the proposed maps can access them at [www.nj.gov/dep/gis/newdata.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/newdata.htm).

Please note, the Department is also proposing two additional amendments elsewhere in this issue of the New Jersey Register that may affect the final version of this mapping. The Department encourages interested parties to review those notices of proposed amendments.

**Public hearings** on the proposed WQM Plan amendment will be held in the northern, central and southern portions of the State as follows:

Date: November 17, 2005  
Time: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Location: Lewis Morris County Park and Cultural Center  
300 Mendham Road (County Road 510)  
Morris Township, New Jersey.

Date: November 21, 2005  
Time: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Location: Rutgers EcoComplex Environmental Research and  
Extension Center  
1200 Florence-Columbus Road  
Mansfield Township, New Jersey.

Date: November 30, 2005  
Time: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Location: Galloway Township Library  
306 East Jimmie Leeds Road  
Galloway, New Jersey.

**Interested persons** may submit written comments on the amendment to WQM Program Docket, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Watershed Management, P.O. Box 418, 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. All comments must be submitted within 15 days following the last public hearing.

All comments submitted prior to the close of the comment period shall be considered by the Department in reviewing the amendment request.

**Any interested person** may request in writing that the Department extend the public comment period in this notice up to 30 additional days. These requests must state the reasons why the proposed extension is necessary. These requests must be submitted within 30 days of the date of this public notice to WQM Program Docket at the Department address cited above.

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Lawrence J. Baier, Director  
Division of Watershed Management  
Department of Environmental Protection

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